



State of New Hampshire
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES

6 Hazen Drive, P.O. Box 95, Concord, NH 03302-0095
(603) 271-3503 FAX (603) 271-2982



The Balsams
Wilderness Ski Area
RR 1, Box 1000
Route 26
Dixville Notch, New Hampshire 03576

LETTER OF DEFICIENCY
WD WQE 02-08
September 4, 2002

Attn Mr. Richard Harris

Re: The Balsams - Wilderness Ski Area, Dixville Notch, New Hampshire
Alteration of terrain for the installation of two chairlifts, reconfiguration of a beginner's slope and associated grading and drainage

Dear Mr. Harris:

On August 26, 2002, personnel from the Department of Environmental Services ("DES") conducted an inspection on the subject project. The purpose of this inspection was to determine compliance with RSA 485-A:17, RSA 482-A, and applicable rules promulgated pursuant thereto. During the inspection, the following deficiencies were documented:

- (1) More than 100,000 contiguous square feet of terrain had been altered for the installation of two chairlifts, reconfiguration of a beginner's slope and associated grading and drainage.
- (2) DES has no record of a Site Specific Permit for the subject disturbance
- (3) Turbid water was flowing from the settlement pond, which is part of the snowmaking system, into an unnamed tributary of the Mohawk River.
- (4) Adequate temporary erosion/sedimentation controls had not been installed

DES believes that the cited deficiencies can be corrected by:

- (1) Applying for and obtaining a Site Specific Permit. The plans should include
 - a. Method(s)/details for treating stormwater runoff, and
 - b. Details on method(s) to be used to permanently prevent turbid water/sediments from draining into the surface water mentioned in deficiency No. 3

- (2) Constructing the project in accordance with the plans approved under the Site Specific Permit.
- (3) Placing loam, seed and hay mulch on all disturbed areas (except the road) on or before September 16, 2002.
- (4) Immediately installing temporary erosion/sedimentation controls around the catch basins in the disturbed area, and as needed throughout the construction site, in order to prevent sediments from migrating into wetlands/surface waters.
- (5) Immediately regulating the flow in the settlement pond in order to maintain the water level at or near the elevation of the 24 inch standpipe.
- (6) Applying for and obtaining a Dredge and Fill Permit from the Wetlands Bureau for a maintenance dredge of the settlement pond.
- (7) Performing the maintenance dredge in accordance with the Wetlands Permit.

In the event compliance cannot be achieved, DES may order you to take such remedial measures as may be necessary. Failure to comply with such an Order may result in enforcement action by DES under RSA 485-A:22. In addition, DES personnel may conduct another inspection at a later date to determine whether you have come into and are maintaining full compliance with the applicable statute and rules.

A written report identifying corrective measures taken through September 16, 2002, shall be mailed to DES by September 20, 2002 and addressed as follows:

Rene J. Pelletier, Manager
Land Resources Management Program
NH Department of Environmental Services, Water Division
6 Hazen Drive
P.O. Box 95
Concord, New Hampshire 03302-0095

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Should you have any questions regarding this letter, please contact Denise Frappier at 433-5981.

Very truly yours,
COPY
Rene J. Pelletier, Manager
Land Resources Management Program

RJP/DMF
CERTIFIED MAIL, RRR
cc: Mark Harbaugh, DES Enforcement Attorney ✓
Denise M. Frappier-WQE/WD/DES
Craig Rennie, WB/WD/DES
County Administrator, Coos County